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2. Germ Warfare Charges and Inoculations in North Korea

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Issue of Gas Masks to Chinese Communist Soldiers

1. In April 1952 the majority of the Chinese Communist soldiers¹ received gas masks marked with characters stating "Made in Japan, 12th Year of Showa" (1937). All Chinese Communist forces which had not been issued masks in April received masks by 15 May; the masks issued in May bore some markings in English.
2. By 30 March each Chinese Communist soldier in Korea had received a gauze mask. Instructions in the use of the mask stated that the mask would protect the wearer against gas and epidemic attack if the mask, covering the mouth and nose, were saturated with urine.

Germ Warfare Charges and Inoculations

3. Members of the Chinese Communist 559 Regiment, 187 Division, 63 Army, were inoculated against the following diseases: 15 February, eruptive typhus; 8 March, black plague; and 10 May, smallpox.

Prior to May, a leader of a Chinese Communist army newspaper study group stated that United Nations aircraft dropped shells containing bacteria at P'yongyang in February 1952. The leader said that, as a result, many of the P'yongyang area were stricken with the black plague and the disease was fatal to more than one hundred.

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5. After March 1952 officials in the Pukch'ong (128-19, 40-15) (DV-4255) area were being inoculated with a serum made in China. White powder in khaki-colored tin cans 6 centimeters square and 15 centimeters high, was being mixed with 1 gram of sterilized water to yield the serum. Persons receiving the injection suffered severe headaches and fever for approximately 3 days following the injection.
6. On 10 April persons in the Wonsan area were inoculated for typhus, on 20 April for the black plague, and on 10 May for an unknown disease.² By May, persons in the Wonsan area carrying lice at the time of each monthly health inspection were being required to pay a fine.

25X1 1. Comment. The reference is presumably to Chinese Communist soldiers serving in Korea.

25X1 2. Comment. Possibly smallpox. See paragraph 3.

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